

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 732

By Harwell

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend David L. Solomon upon being named to the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Business and Industry Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves both in their chosen professions and as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is David L. Solomon, Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Director of NuVox Communications, who makes his home in Nashville, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, David Solomon embarked upon a career as an accountant when his father, Frazier Solomon, former Director of State Audit and Personnel Director of the Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury of the State of Tennessee, read bedtime stories to him from an accounting manual from the age of four; David grew up to be the husband of a CPA and the son-in-law of a CPA; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon earned a Bachelor of Science in accounting from David Lipscomb University in Nashville in 1981 and went to work for the public accounting firm of

KPMG Peat Marwick; during his thirteen years at KPMG Peat Marwick, he rose to the rank of partner, gaining experience in public and private capital markets, financial management and reporting; and

WHEREAS, David Solomon left in 1994 to join Brooks Fiber Properties (BFP) as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, as well as Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Director of Brooks Telecommunications Corporation until it was acquired by BFP in January 1996; while at BFP, he was involved in all aspects of strategic development, raised over \$1.6 billion in equity and debt, and built or acquired systems in 44 markets; and

WHEREAS, since 1998, when BFP was sold to MCI WorldCom in a \$3.4 billion transaction, Mr. Solomon has served as an advisor to Diginet Americas, a venture-backed telecommunications company based in Washington, DC, with operations in Latin America and, in 1999, became the founder and director of the Meritage Private Equity Fund, specializing in communications network and service companies; and

WHEREAS, David Solomon, married and the father of four, is a member of the Tennessee Society of Certified Public Accountants (TSCPA) since 1984 and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)

WHEREAS, in October 1999, Mr. Solomon joined the Board of Directors of Gabriel Communications, Inc., now NuVox Communications, a facilities-based integrated communications provider offering businesses and other end users advanced integrated communications products and services; he rose to become Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Director; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon, TSCPA's 2001 Outstanding CPA in Business and Industry Award winner, was named by AICPA and Accountants on Call (AOC) to the AICPA's Business and Industry Hall of Fame; he was one of three selected nationally to receive the award on October 11, 2001 at the AICPA's National Industry Conference in Phoenix, Arizona; and

WHEREAS, as an award winner, David Solomon represents the best in business and epitomizes "The New Finance," a term describing the revolutionary changes which have emerged over the last decade in global financial management; TSCPA Industry Task Force Chairman Lynn Battles said, "David Solomon is an outstanding example of today's CPA in general and, in particular, the CPA profession in Tennessee. He is proof that CPAs are invaluable to the businesses they work for, and can play a major role in helping companies succeed with their broad-based skills and abilities."; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; his dedication to professional excellence is an inspiration to those within and without the accounting profession; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud David Solomon for his dedication to the state of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend David L. Solomon upon being named to the AICPA Business and Industry Hall of Fame and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.